

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Fifteenth Essex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2003.

Residents of Fifteenth Essex Representative District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2003, there were 115,896 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; less than one percent (409) of these admissions reside in the Fifteenth Essex Representative District. 4% (18) of admissions from the Fifteenth Essex Representative District were under 17 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2003, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the Fifteenth Essex Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 78% were male and 22% were female.
- 59% were between the ages of 21-39.
- 81% were white non-Latino, 1% were black non-Latino, 16% were Latino, and 2% were other racial categories.
- 68% were never married, 11% were married, and 21% reported not to be married now.
- 35% had less than high school education, 48% completed high school, and 17% had more than high school education.
- 32% were employed.
- 5% were homeless.
- 27% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Fifteenth Essex Representative District.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2003					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	38%	47%	6%	3%	1%
State	43%	38%	6%	4%	4%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2							
Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2003							
Fifteenth Essex Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	483	317	130	150	126	202	125
FY '96	480	340	147	129	117	215	134
FY '97	458	313	123	122	93	221	147
FY '98	416	270	111	85	69	232	170
FY '99	356	223	102	101	66	183	138
FY '00	525	361	158	130	99	252	186
FY '01	438	291	88	90	52	226	141
FY '02	429	275	102	96	43	247	160
FY '03	409	261	93	84	40	205	157